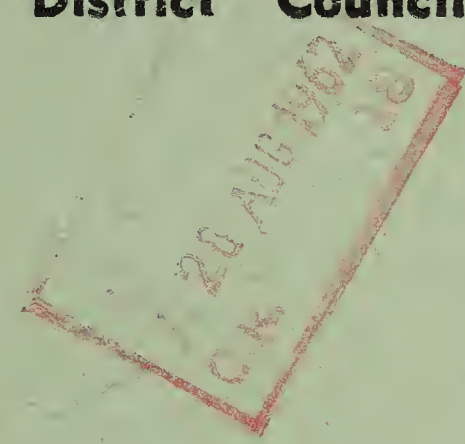


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Houghton-le-Spring Urban District Council



**REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year 1960**




**R. C. F. SMITH,
M.D., B.S., D.P.H.
E. ROBINSON,
M.R.S.Inst., M.S.I.A.**

Houghton-le-Spring Urban District Council

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Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Broadway,
Houghton-le-Spring,
Co. Durham.

Telephone : Houghton-le-Spring 3222.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my third Annual Report in this District.

Birth Rate

This, at 18.44, is higher than in the preceding year and also is higher than for England and Wales, which was 17.1.

Death Rate

At 11.12 per 1,000 population this is slightly higher than in 1959 but compares favourably with 11.5 for England and Wales.

Causes of Death

Heart Disease and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System (the latter mainly cerebral haemorrhage) accounted for half the total number of diseases in 1960 and coronary thrombosis, which is included, for almost one-sixth. These diseases are still taking a great toll throughout the country each year.

Cancer—there were 68 deaths from this cause in 1960. This is still one of the problem diseases of the world. The Ministry of Health circular, published in mid 1957, regarding the possible connection between lung cancer and cigarette smoking was discussed at an area meeting of County Medical Officers of Health and it was felt that the only really useful propaganda would be amongst school children—this has been my personal opinion for some time and I still feel that this is the only propaganda which will prove effective in the future.

Infectious Diseases

During 1960 80 cases of infectious diseases (including all forms of tuberculosis) were notified, a decrease of 455 compared with the number of cases for 1959.

Measles and Whooping Cough. These two diseases show a decrease in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified in 1960, there being 35 cases of measles and 10 of whooping cough as against 452 of measles and 49 of whooping cough in 1959.

Tuberculosis. 12 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 non-pulmonary were notified during the year; 1 of the pulmonary cases was under 20 years of age.

Scarlet Fever. There were 4 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year.

Diphtheria. There were no cases of diphtheria in 1960. The importance of immunisation against this disease must be continually emphasised. Family doctors are able to combine this with preventive treatment against whooping cough and tetanus.

Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis). This is a disease which greatly worries parents. No cases were notified in 1960.

Housing

The Council continues to make good progress with the implementation of Slum Clearance Programme: 102 houses being erected during the year, 20 of these in the Market Place, 82 on Burnside, and at the 31st December, 1960, a further 128 were in the course of erection, also 9 private dwellings were under construction.

There were no pre-war houses modernised during 1960 and the number modernised prior to 1960 was 2,078.

Welfare of the Aged

The local Committee continues to function and, apart from the kindly interest in the 8 Over-60 Clubs which are functioning in the district, and which are self-supporting, the main service of the Committee has been to provide a chiropody service for old people. Approximately 1,400 treatments were given during the year.

The Committee are extremely grateful to the Council for their donation which enables them, along with considerable effort on the Committee's part, to provide this service at a cost which any old person can afford.

The Friendly Visiting of the aged is being carried out in the Area. Most of the visiting is carried out by the Ladies' Circle, Inner Wheel and Women's V.S. who are members of the Old People's Welfare Committee. S.O.S. cards were distributed to all aged persons living alone and they display them in their windows when help is needed. Police and all organisations have been notified on the use of the Cards.

Medical Inspections

During the year 32 medical examinations were carried out to potential employees.

B. C. G. Vaccinations were carried out in the area during the year and records show that 614 consents were obtained, 466 of these were skin tested. 52 were found to be positive and 375 were found negative and vaccinated. 39 did not attend.

Talks have been given in the area on the problems of Old Age to various organisations.

R. C. F. SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1960

Members of the Health Committee, 1960

Chairman: J. Avery, Esq., 12, Railway Terrace, New Herrington.

Members:

Houghton Ward

Councillor J. A. Hall, 35, Windsor Crescent, Houghton-le-Spring.
Alderman H. Hodgson, 2, Stevenson Street, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor E. Kelly, 14, Burns Avenue South, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor J. Bartley, 32, Burns Avenue North, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor R. Richardson, 25 Kirklea Road, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor T. W. Urwin, 54, Queensway, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor T. A. Richardson, 1, Kingsway, Houghton-le-Spring.
Councillor G. Henderson, 21, Balmoral Crescent, Houghton-le-Spring.

Penshaw Ward

Councillor Mrs. V. Barker, 12, Harrow Crescent, Shiny Row.
Councillor T. R. Hunt, 18, Hindson Crescent South, Shiny Row.
Councillor J. Hamilton, 11, Church Street, Shiny Row.
Councillor J. Mawston, 10, Hindson Crescent North, Shiny Row.
Councillor W. J. McKinley, 10, Wensleydale Avenue, Penshaw.
Councillor D. Metcalfe, 2, Oxford Terrace, Shiny Row.
Councillor I. S. Oliver, 64, Wensleydale Avenue, Penshaw.

Fence Houses

Councillor Mrs. P. Alderson, 78, Avenue Vivian, Fence Houses.
Councillor D. Cockburn, 7, Station Avenue North, Fence Houses.
Councillor G. W. Hood, 8, Avenue Vivian, Fence Houses.
Councillor C. W. Robson, 98, Avenue Vivian, Fence Houses.

Herrington Ward

Councillor J. McKinley, 6, Fenton Terrace, New Herrington.
Councillor T. Wynd, 120, Fletcher Crescent, New Herrington.

Newbottle Ward

Councillor B. A. Bircham, 10, Chapel Row, Philadelphia.
Councillor W. E. Marshall, 14, Hazel Terrace, Newbottle.
Councillor H. T. Watson, 21, The Crescent, Philadelphia.
Councillor L. R. Holmes, 4, Lumley Crescent, Philadelphia.

Co-opted Members

Mrs. J. Coffey, 51, Railway Terrace, New Herrington.
Mrs. M. Middlemass, 10, Avenue Vivian, Fence Houses.

Public Health Officers and Staff of the Authority

The Staff consists of:—

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: Dr. R. C. F. Smith, M.D., B.S., D.P.H. Conjoint appointment with Hetton Urban District Council, Washington Urban District Council, Sunderland Rural District Council and Assistant Medical Officer for Durham County Council.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT: E. Robinson. Whole time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods. Also acts as Factory and Workshops Inspector and Inspector under the Shops Act and Petroleum Acts. Associate Member of Institute of Public Cleansing.

DEPUTY SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: N. Pounder. Whole time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: W. Snowball. Whole time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

SURVEYOR AND ENGINEER: A. Veitch. Whole time. Fellow of Surveyor's Institute and a member of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

SHORTHAND TYPIST: Miss J. Brown.

CLERK: Mrs. Smith.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in acres—5,026 acres.

Registrar General's Estimate of resident population—mid year 1960—31,550.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1960 according to Rate Books—10,104.

Rateable Value—£242,787.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£941.

Health Services administered by the County Council

The County Council are the Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act and are responsible for the following services:—

Ambulance	Domestic Helps
Home Nursing	Health Visitors
Vaccination—Smallpox and Poliomyelitis	Child Welfare and Maternity Services
Immunisation against Diphtheria	School Medical Services
Welfare of the Aged	Care of the Blind and certain other handicapped persons

The County Council are also responsible for the administration of Part III of the National Insurance Act, 1948.

FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTORS are also appointed by and work under the direction of the County Council.

The Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for the carrying out of the routine examination of the cow population throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of the health of the cows, this work being carried out by their own Veterinary Inspectors.

Vital Statistics

Births and Birth Rate

The nett number of live births (as corrected by the Registrar General for the outward and inward transfers) during 1960 was 582 compared with 551 for 1959.

Sex and legitimacy are shown thus:—

		Total			}	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 18.44.
		Male	Female			
Live Births	Legitimate	569	279	290	}	
	Illegitimate	13	6	7		

The Registrar General states the Birth Rate per 1,000 population in England and Wales (live births) was 17.1 for 1960.

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births was 2.23.

Year	Total live births	Males	Females	Rate per 1,000 population	Excess births over deaths
1951	608	286	322	19.87	268
1952	579	300	279	12.21	249
1953	590	297	293	19.10	253
1954	544	276	268	17.57	180
1955	512	273	239	16.54	203
1956	537	274	263	17.31	231
1957	577	294	283	18.49	210
1958	565	275	290	18.00	217
1959	551	283	268	17.5	228
1960	582	285	297	18.44	231

Still Births—During 1960 there were 16 still births in the district.

		Total Male Female			
Still Births	} Legitimate	16	8	8	} giving a rate of 26.75 per 1,000 (live and still births) births
		Illegitimate	—	—	
(Total live and still births was 598 for 1960).					

Deaths and Death Rate

The Registrar General reports that during 1960 357 persons normally residing in the Urban Area died, being 195 males and 156 females.

The death rate was, therefore, 11.12 per 1,000 population.

This compares with 10.26 for 1959.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes. (Heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list.)

There was 1 death among women from puerperal sepsis but none from other puerperal causes.

The Maternal mortality rate was 1.67 per 1,000 live and still births.

Death Rate of Infants under One Year

14 children died during 1960 before attaining the age of one year, being 5 legitimate males and 9 legitimate females, equivalent to an Infantile Mortality Rate of 24.05 (per 1,000 live births).

During 1959 10 children died before attaining the age of one year.

Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births was 24.60.

Infantile mortality rate per 1,00 illegitimate births was 0.00.

Death rate of infants under one year of age according to the total number of live births and legitimacy for the years 1951-1960

Year		All Infants per 1000 live births		Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births		Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births
1951	...	29.60	...	27.96	...	111.11
1952	...	41.45	...	41.45	...	00.00
1953	...	27.12	...	27.12	...	00.00
1954	...	33.08	...	31.26	...	125.00
1955	...	23.43	...	21.46	...	100.00
1956	...	27.93	...	27.93	...	00.00
1957	...	13.8	...	13.8	...	00.00
1958	...	30.08	...	28.31	...	76.15
1959	...	18.14	...	18.86	...	0.00
1960	...	24.05	...	24.60	...	0.00

Of the 14 infants who died under one year of age, the cause of death was attributed to Prematurity in 10 cases, Pneumonia in 1 case and Other Causes 3 cases. Of these, 12 children died under 4 weeks being 4 males and 8 females. Of these, 4 males and 7 females were under 1 week, equivalent to 85.71 per cent of the total deaths under one year.

Nett Live Births—Legitimate					Illegitimate		
			Males	Females	Males	Females	
Corrected as per Registrar General	...	Regis-	279	290	6	7	= 582
Nett Deaths	...	...	5	9	—	—	= 14

Causes of Death in Houghton-le-Spring Urban District during 1960

Causes of Death.					Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	6	8
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	12	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	11
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	5
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	14	12
15.	Leukaemia aleukaemia	...	...	...	3	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	24	25
18.	Coronary disease angina	...	...	...	39	24
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	5	5
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	25	19
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	7	5
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	3	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	4	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	20	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	4	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	1
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	17	16
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	4	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	5	4
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of War	...	...	...	—	1
All causes					195	156

Certain Specified Causes of Death

(a) TUBERCULOSIS:

During 1960 there was 1 death from pulmonary tuberculosis. There were no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, equivalent to a rate of .02 per 1,000 population.

(b) HEART DISEASE:

Heart disease was, as in former years the chief cause of death throughout the area, 176 persons—being 98 males and 78 females—were certified to have died from heart disease. This is equivalent to 50.14 of the total deaths and a mortality rate of 5.57 per 1,000 population.

Comparative Table:—

Year	Total Deaths All Causes	Deaths due to Heart Disease			Death Rate per 1000 population		Percentage Total Deaths due to Heart Disease
		Total	M	F	All Causes	Heart Disease	
1951	340	97	48	49	11.11	3.17	28.53
1952	348	104	54	50	11.21	3.36	29.88
1953	337	103	44	59	10.90	3.33	30.56
1954	364	98	49	49	11.76	3.16	26.49
1955	309	90	56	34	9.98	2.96	29.12
1956	306	130	67	63	9.86	4.19	42.48
1957	367	183	109	74	11.76	5.87	49.86
1958	348	181	104	77	11.08	5.76	52.01
1959	323	173	98	75	10.26	5.49	53.56
1960	351	176	98	78	11.12	5.57	50.14

(c) CANCER:

68 deaths—being 32 males and 36 females—were due to cancer. This is equivalent to a mortality rate of 2.15 per 1,000 population or 19.37% of the total deaths.

Comparative table of deaths due to cancer for the years 1951-1960.

		Number of Deaths				Mortality Rate per 1000 pop.
		Male		Female	Total	
1951	...	44	...	15	59	1.89
1952	...	30	..	24	54	1.74
1953	...	31	...	28	59	1.91
1954	...	34	...	24	58	1.87
1955	...	26	...	22	48	1.55
1956	...	28	...	30	58	1.87
1957	...	27	...	28	55	1.76
1958	...	44	...	22	66	2.13
1959	...	31	...	27	58	1.84
1960	...	32	...	36	68	2.15

The following shows the sites of lesion, sex and age distribution of those who have died during 1960 from cancer, as compiled from local records.

Site		Males—Ages		Females—Ages	
Lungs	50, 55, 55, 78, 74, 60, 51, 54, 67, 82, 50, 45.		
Stomach	59, 86, 59, 63, 56, 72.	82, 68, 46, 76, 75, 77, 83, 72,	
Uterus		73, 69, 63, 63, 69	
Breast		71, 72, 88, 78, 43, 77, 59, 71, 83, 74, 27.	
Oesophagus	79.		
Prostate	75, 76.		
Pancreas	54.	78.	
Liver	79, 68, 84.	21, 51.	
Rectum	79.	54, 69.	
Cervix	76.	78, 51.	
Bladder	89.		
Pharynx	45.		
Colon	63.	80, 54.	
Tongue		66.	
Other	81, 78.	77, 79.	

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

During 1960 some 80 cases of infectious disease (including all forms of Tuberculosis) were notified, a decrease of 455 compared with the number of cases during 1959.

Scarlet Fever: 4 cases were notified as against 6 in 1959 and of these one was admitted to hospital.

The case incidence was 0.12 per 1,000 population.

Diphtheria: There were no cases of diphtheria in the district during 1960 as in 1959, and, therefore, no deaths from this cause. The incidence of diphtheria in the district was 0.00 per 1,000 population.

Influenza: 4 deaths were ascribed to Influenza during 1960 as against none in 1959 and 4 in 1958.

There were 9 deaths as being ascribed to pneumonia (some influenza pneumonia) as against 9 in 1959 while the number of cases of pneumonia notified were 1 as against 2 in 1959 and 8 in 1958.

Measles, Whooping Cough and Erysipelas: In 1960 there were 35 cases of measles and 10 cases of whooping cough as against 462 measles and 49 cases of whooping cough in 1959.

There were no deaths from measles or whooping cough during the year.

1 case of erysipelas was notified during 1960.

Infantile Paralysis: During 1960 no cases of infantile paralysis were notified in the area, being a case incidence of 0.00 per 1,000 population.

School Notification of Disease: No fresh cases of any notifiable disease were notified from the schools.

Diphtheria and Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination

The following table shows the number of children immunised during the four quarters of 1960, also the number of re-inforcing injections for which records were received.

		Under 1	1-4	5-14	Total	Reinforce- ment
1st Quarter	...	41	25	5	71	6
2nd Quarter	...	78	25	5	108	23
3rd Quarter	...	73	30	1	104	19
4th Quarter	...	75	23	8	106	35
		267	103	19	389	83

Cases of Infectious Diseases during 1960—Showing Age, Incidence and Distribution.
Admission to Hospital and Case Rates.

Notifiable Diseases	Number of Cases Notified											Total No. of Cases Notified in Each Ward					Cases Admitted to Hospital	No. per 1000 Population.	Total Deaths			
	At Ages—Years											Total										
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Houghton	Penshaw	Newbottle	Fence Houses				Herrington	Total	
Scarlet Fever	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	4	1	0.12	...
Diphtheria
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	0.03	...
Erysipelas	0.03	...
Pulmonary } Male	1	...	...	...	3	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	...	1
Tuberculosis } Female	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	0.38	...
Non-Pulmonary } Male	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Tuberculosis } Female	1	...	0.06	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis
Small Pox
Dysentery	1	4	3	3	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	...	...	...	15	1	0.47	...
Whooping Cough	1	...	3	...	1	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	...	...	3	10	...	0.31	...
Measles	1	2	9	3	6	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	31	...	35	...	1.10	...
Para-Typhoid Fever
Acute Encephalitis
Poliomyelitis
Polio-Encephalitis
Food Poisoning
Meningococcal Infections
Totals	3	6	15	6	7	26	2	...	6	2	5	2	80	9	28	5	35	3	80	11	...	8

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated and re-vaccinated, for which records were received, during the four quarters of 1960

SMALLPOX

VACCINATED.						REVACCINATED.				
1960.	Under 1 Year	1—4	5—14	15 years & over	Total	Under 1 Year	1—4	5—14	15 years & over	Total
1st Qtr. ...	27	6	4	6	43	—	—	3	5	8
2nd Qtr. ...	37	4	—	8	49	—	—	—	3	3
3rd Qtr. ...	60	4	2	10	76	—	—	2	2	4
4th Qtr. ...	25	5	—	10	40	—	—	—	3	3
	149	19	6	34	208	—	—	5	13	18

Tuberculosis

There has been no action taken during 1960 under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The following table shows the notifications of Tuberculosis, pulmonary and non-pulmonary, according to sex, for the period 1951-60.

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1951	18	29	47	3	5	8
1952	9	11	20	2	2	4
1953	6	10	16	—	—	—
1954	11	15	26	1	1	2
1955	10	10	20	1	—	1
1956	12	11	23	3	1	4
1957	11	12	23	1	2	3
1958	11	10	21	3	—	3
1959	12	5	17	3	2	5
1960	6	6	12	1	1	2

The following table shows the various age-period for males and females, at which new cases were notified and when death occurred.

			New Cases		Deaths	
			Non		Non	
Age Period			Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Pulmonary
Under 1 year	...	...	—	—	—	—
1 year	...	...	—	—	—	—
5 years	...	...	1	—	—	—
15 years	...	...	—	—	—	—
25 years	...	...	4	2	—	—
35 years	...	...	1	—	—	—
45 years	...	...	2	—	—	—
55 years	...	...	2	—	1	—
65 and upwards	...	...	2	—	—	—
			12	2	1	—

Mass Radiography

During the year 1960, mass radiography surveys were carried out in the urban area, in which a total of 1,473 persons, being 638 males and 835 females, were X-rayed. 32 people, being 25 males and 7 females, were referred to the Chest Clinic and, of these, 1 male failed to attend. Statistics show that 3 persons, 2 males and 1 female, were discovered to have tuberculosis.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The water supply of the Urban area was taken over by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company at the beginning of April, 1957.

The water supplied to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examinations were made periodically of the water supplied, and of the 13 samples examined all but one were of satisfactory purity.

The water has no detectable plumbo-solvent action; the supply is chlorinated and no contamination has taken place.

There are approximately 10,104 dwellings connected to the Company's mains, serving some 32,000 persons, and there are no standpipes in the area.

Housing

The number of houses in course of erection on the 31st December, 1960, was as follows:—

Council Houses	...	...	...	128
Private Houses	...	...	...	9

Closet Accommodation

The number of each type of convenience at the end of 1960 was as follows:—

Water Closets	...	...	...	10,291
Ash Closets	...	...	...	20
Privy Middens	...	...	...	2

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Urban Area is divided into 8 districts, served by 1 foreman, 1 mechanic, 8 drivers and 24 fillers. Four Karrier Bantams and 4 larger CK 3 vehicles are used. One new Karrier Gamecock—Double Cab—Parkins Diesel—was added to the fleet, replacing Karrier Bantam; and a collection vehicle is used as a floating vehicle to assist any district as necessary. Also Diesel powered Fordson Super Major Tractor was bought. On the present low level tips the daily use of a tractor is necessary for tip control.

Sickness

During 1960, 25 employees were absent through sickness for various reasons, being a total of 91 weeks, but of this total 36 who are accounted for by 1 employee losing 21 weeks, 1—15 weeks, each leaving 55 weeks for the remaining 23 employees.

Regular collections of refuse from all premises have been maintained in the area, and credit is due to the cleansing staff for this achievement who have to work in all inclement weather and under all conditions. Refuse collections are made twice weekly for approximately 70% to 80% of premises throughout the district and the remainder have a once weekly collection.

Collection of Trade Refuse

The increase of refuse for collection from shops and business premises is one of the many problems of the present-day cleansing department.

Refuse during the past four years has so changed in character that the bin collector now removes bulk and not weight.

The every-day use of paper packaging materials and the use of more tinned goods has resulted in more bulky refuse for the bin men.

Absenteeism and holidays often cause upsets to the regular household collections.

The present estimated cost is 51/- per house, per annum. In 1950 the estimated cost was 27/6d. per house, and pre-war it was 15/- per house.

Increased demand on the refuse collection service, coupled with rising costs of materials, maintenance and wages tend to make the daily problem of household collection more difficult each year.

It would greatly assist the Council to keep collection costs down and also help to "Keep Britain Tidy" if householders would burn more of this unsuitable salvage in their own homes.

The modern lay-out of housing estates with their open lawn frontages necessitates "long carries", in many cases more than 100 yards, is one of the causes of increased costs.

Refuse disposal in this area is a serious problem. All available deep tips are now sealed and only shallow tipping is in use.

Ashbins

Forty-seven bins have been purchased from the Council during the year. These are a good quality galvanised 2½ cu. ft. BSS ashbin.

Salvage of Waste Materials

Waste paper and cardboard was disposed of under contract to Messrs. J. Ainsworth & Co. (Bolton) Ltd; 24 tons of baled paper and cardboard being sent to these mills and the sum realised £160 as against £34 in 1959. 39 tons of scrap tins were collected from the scavenging tips, realising £118, decrease of £60 over the prior year. Mixed scrap was also disposed of, realising £10.

Housing Repairs

Local Contractors are very reluctant to submit estimates or even work on a time basis for small works of repair necessary under the Housing Acts.

Camping and Caravan Sites

This area is in the centre of the coal mining industry and there are no sites used for camping: a small caravan site mostly used by travelling showmen was licensed during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no publicly or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the district.

Schools

The sanitary condition of the schools was found to be generally satisfactory. The older types need to be replanned when circumstances permit.

Cinemas, Public Houses and Halls

There are two cinemas in the district: Houghton 2.

These and other places of public entertainment were inspected during the year with respect to sanitary arrangements and were generally found to be satisfactory.

During 1960 one cinema in the Houghton ward ceased to operate as such.

All licensed premises throughout the area are visited and are generally found to be in a clean and hygienic condition.

Eradication of the Bed Bug

The work is supervised by the Public Health Inspectors in co-operation with either tenants or owner. Periodical inspections are made to ensure that the tenants carry out the Inspector's instructions as much depends on the efforts of the tenants themselves. There were no infestations during 1960.

Prevention of Damage by Pests—Pests Act, 1949

Three hundred and nine cases of rat, mouse and other infestations were reported and dealt with during the year.

All infestations are investigated by the Inspectors; this in some cases may appear to be a waste of time but the results are often more than satisfactory to the person concerned.

The part-time rodent operative has continued to relieve your Inspectors of some of the actual disinfestation of the premises. The Council decided that the Health Department be responsible for Rodent Control throughout the Area, thus making all the work of Rodent Control under the direction of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

Scavenging disposal tips in the area are regularly treated.

Red Mite or Clover Mite (*Bryobia Praetiosa*)

New Council Housing Estates have been severely affected with this red mite, and regular spraying was carried out to keep this pest under control.

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S GENERAL SUMMARY FOR
YEAR 1960**

	No. of Inspec- tions	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Formal Notices Served	Defects remedied after Notice
Housing:				
Public Health and Housing Acts ...	1,078	123	—	119
Overcrowding ...	20	3	—	3
Sanitary Conveniences:				
Insufficient ...	5	1	—	1
Defective ...	9	8	—	—
Drainage ...	52	12	—	12
Water Supply ...	10	—	—	—
Food Premises... ..	1,710	39	—	39
Shops Act ...	23	—	—	—
Dairies ...	36	5	—	5
Slaughter Houses:				
Public ...	—	—	—	—
Private ...	1,373	27	—	27
Tents, Vans, etc. ...	12	—	—	—
Offensive Trades ...	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ...	29	4	—	4
Keeping of Animals ...	12	3	—	3
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles ...	35	27	—	35
Offensive Accumulations	23	19	—	23
Smoke Nuisances ...	7	7	—	7
Prevention of Damage by Pests, Act, 1949...	309	23	—	23
Licensed Premises ...	32	5	—	5
Schools ...	2	—	—	—
	4,796	306	—	306

Ash-pit privies converted into water-closets ...	2
Ash-closets converted into water-closets ...	—
Total number of water-closets in District ...	10,291
Total number of ash-closets in District ...	20
Total number of ash-pit privies in District ...	7

II. Water, Food and Drugs	Number	Remarks
Samples of Water taken for Analysis ...	13	
Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use	—	
Seizures of Unwholesome Food ...	—	
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food	—	
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis	90	
Samples found Adulterated	—	
III. Precautions against infectious Disease		
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed	—	
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	1	
Schools disinfected after Infectious Disease	—	
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things	—	
Convictions for exposure of infected persons or things	—	
IV. General		
Number of New Houses erected during year	132	Council 102
Number of such Houses occupied during year	132	Private 30

Housing Conditions

Housing Statistics for the Year 1960

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,098
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,191
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	120
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	153
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	152
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	123

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	67
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

C.—Proceedings under sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.					
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	52
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	170

D.—Proceedings under section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957,					
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...			3
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...			—
	By Owners	...	...	...	—

Housing Improvements Act, 1949

		Number of Separate Houses	Standard Grant
(a)	Application submitted to Local Authority	52	79
(b)	Applications rejected by Local Authority ...	—	—
(c)	Total No. of applications approved since the inception of scheme ...	234	78

Housing

SITE	No. of houses erected prior 1960	No. of houses erected during 1960	No. of houses in course of erection at 31/12/60	TOTAL
Market Place ...	—	20	38	58
Cement St., F.H	33	—	—	33
Newtown ...	82	—	—	82
North Rectory ...	60	—	—	60
Villa No. 1 and 2	258	—	—	258
Chilton Moor ...	168	—	—	168
Colliery Row ...	64	—	—	64
Hetton Road ...	316	—	—	316
Hall Lane ...	65	—	—	65
Race Course ...	595	—	—	595
Grange Estate ...	484	—	—	484
Sedgeleth ...	20	—	—	20
Hillside ...	72	—	—	72
Homelands ...	184	—	—	184
St. Aidans ...	138	—	—	138
Park Estate ...	268	—	—	268
Station Road ...	56	—	—	56
Chester Road ...	277	—	—	277
Penshaw Hill ...	96	—	—	96
New Penshaw ...	40	—	—	40
Barnwell ...	600	—	—	600
Success ...	46	—	—	46
Cellar Hill ...	—	—	—	—
Hindson	144	—	—	144
Crescent S.	—	—	—	—
Hindson	110	—	—	110
Crescent N.	256	—	—	256
Burnside ...	223	82	78	383
Fatherley Ter., C.R.	—	—	12 Flats	12
	4,655	102	128	4,885

One hundred and twenty houses were completed by direct labour, 30 were built by private enterprise. The types and location of the houses are shown on the above table.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supplies

During the year 16 samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination and generally were found satisfactory.

Slaughterhouses.

Slaughtering accommodation in the area is not up to the standard that is desired under the Slaughterhouses Acts, 1958, and the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene Regulations, 1958).

Discussion took place with butchers and associated trades in the area regarding the standards for slaughterhouses required by the new Regulations. It was decided that five of the eight slaughterhouses in the Urban District could be made to comply with the regulations for the slaughtering of adult cattle and it was recommended to the Minister.

Many butchers still prefer to kill their own meat and the trade "regrets" the passing, in many instances, of the small slaughterhouse where the butcher was permitted to carry on his own skilled craft. Dressed carcasses from these small type slaughterhouses always appear to be of good quality and their appearance is often much superior to that purchased "off the hook".

The job of a slaughterman is not one that attracts many youths of today. The work is dirty and not very pleasant, and the slaughterman is required to wear protective clothing which must be kept clean while working.

Slaughtering was carried out in the eight slaughterhouses in the Urban District up to the end of the year and was taking place six days, and even seven days a week in some slaughterhouses. 100% inspection of animals slaughtered for food is carried out in this area by fully trained and qualified Meat Inspectors.

Meat inspection, a function of the Health Department which should not be neglected, is an important duty that your Inspectors often have to do outside office hours, even late in the evening, on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays. Weekend and Bank Holiday work is objectionable but must be carried out to avoid delay in the distribution of meat to the public. Efficient inspection means inspection at the time of slaughtering. In order to make positive identification of organs from individual carcasses before post mortem changes hide the characteristic features of the carcase, inspection must be carried out at the time of slaughtering or immediately afterwards.

The quality of animals slaughtered in the district is now of a very high standard and the decline of tuberculosis is a pleasing feature.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year:—

Cattle, 2251; cows, 332; sheep and lambs, 6448; pigs, 1325, calves, 130; making a total of 10,486, all of which were inspected.

Food and Drugs

There were 211 food premises in the area, being:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	7
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	76
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	22
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	4
Butchers	...	...	...	...	25
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	33
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	17
Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	13
S.D.O., Y.M.C.A. and Colliery Canteens	...	...	...	...	8
Super Market	...	...	...	...	1
Snack Bar	...	...	...	...	1
					211

There are four dairies, A. E. Smith, F. Tindale, B. English and Houghton Dairymen's Association, and the number of premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream is 95, being:—

General Dealers	...	...	...	...	68
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	2
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	2
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	1
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	3
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Colliery Canteen	...	...	...	...	1
Pork Butcher	...	...	...	...	1
Fish and Chip Shop	...	...	...	...	1
Petrol Filling Station	...	...	...	...	1
Snack Bar	...	...	...	...	1
Wine Stores	...	...	...	...	1

Routine inspection and supervision of all food preparing premises is regularly carried out and, whilst the general standard is good, there is still much room for improvement in many cases. Owners and occupiers are asked to co-operate with the Inspectors in their efforts to achieve a desired high standard.

The "shopper" can do much to enforce food hygiene if they will boycott the shopkeeper who does not bring his premises up to the desired standard.

The results of inspections are contained in the following tables:

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2251	332	130	6448	1325
Number inspected	2251	332	130	6448	1325
All diseases except T.B.—					
Whole carcasses condemned...	1	6	—	3	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	92	21	—	121	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	4.13	8.13	—	1.92	0.52
T.B. only—					
Whole carcasses condemned...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	8	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	—	2.40	—	—	0.15

WEIGHT CONDEMNED (in Lbs.)

	Other Diseases			T.B.		
	Carcasses	Organs	Parts	Carcasses	Organs	Parts
Cattle— excl. Cows	532	2078	185	—	—	—
Cows ...	2330	310	278	—	160	—
Calves ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep ...	163	370	11	—	—	—
Pigs ...	—	38	155	—	24	—
	3025	2796	629	—	184	—

Total weight condemned approximately 3 tons.

Unsound Food

Condemned meat and offal is disposed of for the manufacture of fats, fertilisers and animal feeding stuff, or if it is so diseased as to be unsuitable for such purpose it is destroyed.

Foods from retail premises are surrendered to the Health Department and are burned or destroyed and disposed of on the Council's tips.

144 tins vegetables; 42 tins rice pudding; 258 tins tomatoes; 553 tins fruit; 309 tins ham, tongue and other meats; 66 lbs. sausage; 9 tins Irish stew; 5 tins jam; 51 tins soup; 1 tin lamb chops; 40 tins milk; 10 tins fish; 1 tin sago; 5 pies; 15 lbs. sliced cooked ham; 3 broiler chickens; 7 tins breast of chicken; 19 lbs. sliced bacon; 3 sliced shoulders.

Total Weight: 1,546 lbs. = 1 ton 13 cwts. 9 lbs.

Bakehouses

A small number of local bakeries still exist in the area; their sales show that there are still many people who prefer the "homebaked" loaf. These premises are regularly inspected.

Ice Cream

During the year 18 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and were satisfactory. Much of the ice cream consumed is imported (pre-packed) into the district and sold by small retail shops. It is the practice to insist on an electric refrigerator for storage in these cases and to ensure that the premises and personnel are clean.

Fried Fish Shops

The sale of cooked food from fried fish and chip shops and salons has decreased considerably during the past year. The standard of cleanliness is well maintained and many establishments are equipped with modern cooking installations and many assistants serving in these establishments are provided with white overalls and caps.

Shops

The general standard of hygiene and cleanliness throughout the area is well maintained.

Canteens

Colliery, Factory and School canteens in which food is prepared were visited during the year, and a satisfactory standard of cleanliness is maintained.

Factories

The following are the principal places within your district:

1. Philadelphia Engine Works and Repairing Shops.
2. Philadelphia Joinery Works.
3. N.E.E.B. Electrical Power Sub-Section.
4. Sunderland and District Omnibus Co.
5. Co-operative Stores and Workshops.
6. Gas Works.
7. Joinery Works.
8. Boring Tool Works.
9. Printing Works.
10. Builders Merchants.
11. Candle Making.
12. Bakeries.
13. Sugar Confectioners.
14. Clothing Factories.
15. Iron Foundry.
16. Motor Repair Shops.
17. Boot Repairs Shops.
18. Cement Blocks.
19. Building Works.
20. Packing Cases.
21. Travelling Cases.
22. Electrical Accessories.
23. Woodwork Machinery.
24. Pickles.
25. Light Engineering Works.
26. Cosmetic Factory.

During the year these have been inspected and any nuisances or defects found were remedied without the necessity for formal action.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	94	59	...	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	4	4	...	...
Total	98	63		...

2. Defects Found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1) ...	1	1	...	...
Overcrowding (S2) ...	...	...	...	..
Unreasonable Temperature(S3)	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S4) ...	...	...	...	...
Inef'ctive drainage of floors(S6)	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) :				
Insufficient ...	...	...	...	..
Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	...	...
Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	..
Other offences (Not including offences relating to outwork) ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	3	3	...	...

